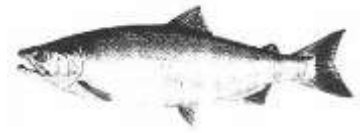


ALASKA DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND GAME
DIVISION OF COMMERCIAL FISHERIES
NEWS RELEASE



Cora Campbell, Commissioner
Jeff Regnart, Director



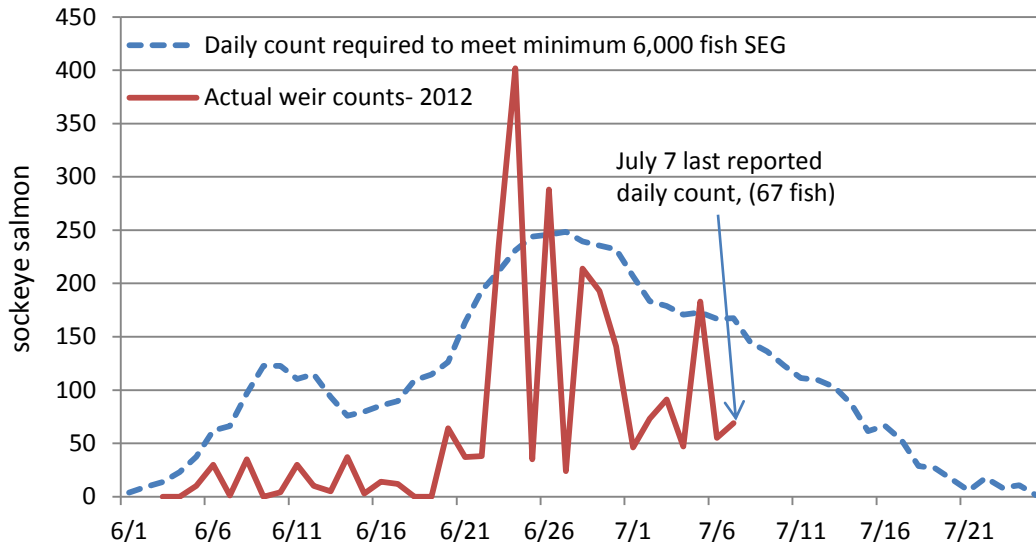
Contact:
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Lower Cook Inlet Area Office
3298 Douglas Place
Homer, AK 99603

Date Issued: Friday, July 13, 2012, 2:00 pm

Lower Cook Inlet Salmon Fishery News Release #14

SUBSISTENCE: Waters of the Port Graham Subdistrict including the English Bay Section will open to subsistence set gillnet harvest from 6:00 AM, Monday July 16 until 10:00 PM, Sunday July 22 and will continue on this schedule until further notice.



Total passage at the English Bay weir through July 7 was 2,427 fish. This compares to a cumulative passage goal for this date of 5,699 required to meet the minimum Sustainable Escapement Goal (SEG) of 6,000 fish. Historically the average English Bay sockeye salmon return is over 97% complete by July 16. No sockeye salmon counts have been reported from the English Bay weir since July 7. The intent of this opening is to provide harvest opportunity for subsistence users to harvest other species as well as sockeye salmon returning to the Port Graham hatchery remote release site.

KAMISHAK BAY DISTRICT: Waters of the Bruin Bay Subdistrict outside of Bruin Bay south of the headland north of Contact Point, (59° 23.06'N. lat., 153° 57.02'W. long.) and waters within Bruin Bay will open to commercial seine harvest on a seven day per week schedule beginning on Monday, July 16 at 6:00 AM. All anadromous stream markers ARE IN EFFECT. All other waters of the Kamishak Bay District **excluding** the Chenik, McNeil, and Paint River subdistricts remain open on a 7-day per week schedule to commercial seine harvest.

Preliminary reports indicate that 45,000 sockeye salmon were harvested from the Chenik Subdistrict last week. The SEG range for Chenik Lake is 3,500 – 14,000 fish with a midpoint of 8,750. Preliminary video counts to date are,

June 22-27	271 fish
June 27-July 1	1,498 fish
July 1-3	4,745 fish
July 3-6	1,056 fish
July 6-10	1,284 fish
Total video passage	8,854 fish (as of 2:30 PM 7/10)

An aerial survey conducted on Tuesday, July 10 counted approximately 2,500 sockeye salmon in Chenik Lagoon. Hard drives will be pulled from the video cameras at Chenik Lake early next week.

OUTER and EASTERN DISTRICTS: The Delight Lake weir was installed earlier last week and has passed 1,502 fish as of yesterday. The SEG for this system is 7,500 – 17,650 sockeye salmon with a midpoint of 12,575 fish. An aerial survey of this system on July 10 documented 2,242 sockeye salmon in the lake and estuary. In addition 870 fish were observed in Desire Lake with 432 also observed in Aialik Lake on that date. No pink salmon were observed in Port Dick or other systems east of this location.

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SOUTHERN DISTRICT: Waters of the China Poot Subdistrict excluding the China Poot SHA, and waters of the Halibut Cove Subdistrict, excluding Halibut Cove Lagoon, remain open to commercial salmon **purse seine harvest** on a regular schedule of two 64-hour fishing periods per week, from 6:00 a.m. Monday until 10:00 p.m. Wednesday, and from 6:00 a.m. Thursday until 10:00 p.m. Saturday until further notice.

The China Poot SHA is defined in 5 AAC 21.373 as, “the marine waters of the China Poot Bay Subdistrict in the Southern District shoreward of and enclosed by a line from 59° 34.66' N. lat., 151° 19.27' W. long., to 59° 35.08' N. lat., 151° 19.77' W. long., to 59° 33.09' N. lat., 151° 25.22' W. long., to 59°32.84' N. lat., 151° 24.90' W. long.;”

Also within the Southern District, waters of the Barabara Creek Subdistrict, the Tutka Bay Subdistrict, the Halibut Cove Subdistrict and the Seldovia Bay Subdistrict remain open to commercial salmon **set gillnet harvest** on a regular schedule of two 48-hour fishing periods per week, from 6:00 a.m. Monday until 6:00 a.m. Wednesday, and from 6:00 a.m. Thursday until 6:00 a.m. Saturday until further notice. Waters of the Port Graham Subdistrict remain closed to commercial set gillnet harvest.

Preliminary commercial harvest to date from the Southern District is shown below,

Period			Sockeye			Chinook			Chum			Pink		
Pd. #	Dates	Del.	10-yr avg.	2011 harvest	2012 harvest	10-yr avg.	2011 harvest	2012 harvest	10-yr avg.	2011 harvest	2012 harvest	10-yr avg.	2011 harvest	2012 harvest
1	6/1 - 6/2	6	158	1,214	429	31	15	5	6	20	15	---	0	0
2	6/4 - 6/6	7	1,278	700	519	100	9	7	18	16	6	---	0	0
3	6/7 - 6/9	7	894	287	615	90	11	7	28	24	33	---	0	0
4	6/11 - 6/13	9	1,491	707	465	72	16	16	51	27	76	---	0	0
5	6/14 - 6/16	6	903	292	218	55	9	3	47	7	18	---	0	0
6	6/18 - 6/20	8	1,634	382	635	57	6	5	88	16	35	27	0	93
7	6/21 - 6/23	5	1,003	1,269	420	41	5	2	66	90	47	132	0	48
8	6/25 - 6/27	7	1,885	998	467	34	4	5	228	83	39	146	171	183
9	6/28 - 6/30	7	1,801	967	529	19	3	2	188	120	44	337	48	126
10	7/2 - 7/4	7	2,854	1,470	530	22	9	9	299	26	122	359	70	5
11	7/5 - 7/7	7	2,370	2,302	553	14	5	1	175	110	11	546	62	3
12	7/9 - 7/11	10	3,363	5,352	819	14	3	3	186	285	67	258	270	1
Total			19,634	15,940	6,199	549	95	65	1,380	824	513	1,805	621	459

HATCHERY UPDATE: Cook Inlet Aquaculture Association (CIAA) began cost recovery on Monday, May 21 in Resurrection Bay. As of June 21, a total of 79,761 sockeye salmon had been harvested. An additional 244 were harvested earlier today. Hatchery and wild broodstock escapement past the Bear Creek weir as of July 10 was 11,910 sockeye salmon. The wild stock SEG for Bear Lake is 700 – 8,300 and the Trail Lakes Hatchery broodstock goal is 4,258 sockeye salmon.

The overall CIAA cost recovery goal of 1.55 million dollars was to be met using 136 thousand fish harvested from Resurrection Bay and 19 thousand from the Tutka Bay Lagoon return. Given the below anticipated return to Resurrection Bay, CIAA cost recovery will occur at the China Poot and Kirchner Lake SHAs in addition to the SHA in Tutka Bay. Anticipated sockeye salmon returns to these remote release sites are,

Kirchner Lake - 10,200 fish,
China Poot/Hazel Lake – 6,500 fish, and
Tutka Lagoon – 28,000 fish.

Compounding this, 5,028 sockeye salmon were to have been harvested from the English Bay River weir by CIAA as broodstock for Lower Cook Inlet remote releases. Given the below anticipated return to the English Bay River system, these broodstock fish will now be harvested from remote release sites listed above. Fish returning to these sites are all of Hidden Lake stock.

The next scheduled salmon fisheries announcement is anticipated to be on Friday, July 20.

Announcement recordings are available on the 24-hour telephone recording in the Homer office at 907/235-7307.

Additionally, announcements, inseason harvest data, and escapement data are available at the following web address:

<http://www.adfg.alaska.gov/index.cfm?adfg=commercialbyarealci.salmon>

Unless otherwise specified, all openings are clock openings based on Alaska Daylight Time, which is based on Coordinated Universal Time and may be obtained by calling 303-499-7111.